

## Other Accomplishments

Provided cost share and technical assistance for installation of a grassed filter strip at composting facility near Quincy.

Provided cost share and technical assistance for installation of manure separators at Quincy and Othello area dairies.

Improved waste transfer, storage, and waste utilization system at Royal City area dairy.

Provided support for 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Othello Sandhill Crane Festival.

Installed waste transfer system at Ephrata area dairy.

Worked with local farmers and DOE in preparing and issuing burn permits.

Supplied technical and administrative support related to Irrigation Water Management (IWM) on over 70,400 acres of cropland in the Columbia Basin.

Spoke at schools, teaching students about the importance of conservation.

## 2008 Feature Accomplishment

### Large Dairy Installs 2.8 Mile Waste Transfer System

#### *Resource Challenge*

As dairies and animal feeding operations become larger and more efficient, more land and crops are required to utilize the nutrients produced. Overloading of phosphorus has become a problem on cropland close to facilities where cows have been kept for many years. Surface and ground water resources are at risk of becoming polluted due to runoff, erosion, and deep percolation of nutrients. Even if fields are double-cropped, or yearly manure applications are deferred, it takes several years for soil phosphorus concentrations to decline.

#### *Project Summary and Results*

Using cost share from the Washington State Conservation Commission and technical assistance from the Grant Conservation District, the Bar-E Dairy installed 14,600 ft. of buried eight-inch mainline to help distribute liquid manure to fields that had never before received these nutrients and thus improve their waste management system.

Several irrigation ditches and return ditches had to be crossed, requiring a buried system. Several pumping stations and electrical upgrades, along with new nozzles and smaller delivery lines allowed the manure to be distributed with irrigation water through center pivot systems as it is needed. The reduction in trucking and labor, along with the management flexibility and time savings, made this project attractive and beneficial for all concerned.

By implementing other practices such as irrigation water management (IWM) and planting cover crops, the amounts of nutrients produced by the dairy could be applied more efficiently, increasing crop yields and lowering the runoff potentials that contribute to water contamination. Manure can be applied more precisely to fields; lagoons can be emptied more quickly, and fuel is saved too.



## Contact Information

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## More Work To Do

#### *Groundwater Quality:*

- Develop IWM plans and BMPs.

#### *Animal Feeding Operations:*

- Write NMPs; educate livestock operators to meet compliance requirements; implement BMPs.

#### *Soil Conditions:*

- Conduct educational events and complete inventories; provide technical assistance.

#### *Small Farm Operations:*

- Seek funding; provide site visits, write NMPs and implement BMPs.
- *Recreation and Wildlife Issues:* Increase participation to help educate and implement projects.

#### *Education:*

- Sandhill Crane Festival, Annual Soil Conference, Water on Wheels, Envirothon, Arbor Day, Community Water Sampling, FFA, and Grower Meetings.